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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER	
TRAN, TUYETLIEN T	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2179	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/626,011	DE WAAL, ABRAHAM B.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	TUYETLIEN T. TRAN	2179	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *19 December 2008*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *52-68* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *52-68* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the following communication: Supplemental Amendment filed 12/19/08. **This action is made final.**

2. Claims 52-68 are pending in the case. Claims 52, 60, 68 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 53 and 61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 53 and 61 recite the limitation "by the user" in 3 of the claims. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

5. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

6. Claims 60-67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

With respect to claim 60, the "computer-readable medium," in accordance with Applicant's specification, may be a transmission media that includes light waves or infrared signal (e.g., see Applicant's specification in [0036] of 2005/0022135). This subject matter is not limited to that which falls within a statutory category of invention because it is not limited to a process, machine, manufacture, or a composition of matter. Instead, it includes a form of

energy. Energy does not fall within a statutory category since it is clearly not a series of steps or acts to constitute a process, not a mechanical device or combination of mechanical devices to constitute a machine, not a tangible physical article or object which is some form of matter to be a product and constitute a manufacture, and not a composition of two or more substances to constitute a composition of matter.

Claims 61-67 fail to resolve the deficiencies of claim 60 and therefore are also rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

8. Claims 52-58, 60-66 and 68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Drenttel et al. (Patent No. US 7124360 B1; hereinafter Drenttel) in view of Santoro et al. (Patent No. US 6724403 B1; hereinafter Santoro).

As to claims 52, Drenttel teaches:

A method for organizing one or more application windows within at least one computer display (e.g., Figs. 9a-9c and col. 7 lines 57-67), the method comprising:

dividing the at least one computer display with one or more user-defined boundaries to create two or more window areas within the at least one computer display (e.g., Figs. 9a-9c and col. 5 lines 1-44; the display screen is divided into grids having two or more window areas and wherein the grid templates are user-configurable, col. 6 lines 56-67), wherein each of the one or more user-defined boundaries extends between two different sides of the at least one computer display (e.g., Figs. 9a-9c; wherein the boundary of window area 9001' extends between two different sides, left to right side, of the computer screen where the template area covers);

associating a first application window with a first window area within the at least one computer display based on user input (e.g., Fig. 9b and col. 6 lines 56-67 through col. 7 lines 1-28 and col. 7 lines 35-47 and lines 57-67; wherein the first section of the screen 9012 is configured to display email information or wherein each frame being used to display data as desired and wherein the user can reconfigure and reorganize the mosaic of information); and

displaying the first application window within the first window area within the at least one computer display based on user input (e.g., Figs. 9a-9c and col. 7 lines 35-67; wherein each grid/frame is used to display data as desired).

While Drenttel discloses that an application window is associated with a specific mat object; for example, Email application and Web Browser application are associated to mat object 9012 and 9011, respectively (e.g., Figs. 9a-9c and col. 7 lines 48-67), Drenttel does not expressly disclose the feature of having one application window to only be displayed within the associated grid object. However, this limitation is disclosed by Santoro wherein Santoto teaches user-defined boundaries (e.g., Fig. 1 and col. 13 lines 28-30). Santoro teaches the user-define boundaries having two or more window areas (e.g., tiles) to display one or more application windows (e.g., Fig. 1). Santoro teaches each window area is associated with an

application program (e.g., Fig. 1 and col. 10 lines 44-67) wherein the application window can be associated by the tile by the user input (e.g., col. 14 lines 10-15, col. 11 lines 9-14). Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to have modified the layout grid template of Drenttel to include the feature of associating an application window with a tile as disclosed by Santoro to achieve the claimed invention. One would have been motivated to make such an implementation is to increase the user perception of the screen and the information displayed therewith.

In regard to claim 60, claim 60 reflects the computer readable medium-comprising software instruction for performing the method steps as claimed in claim 1, and is rejected along the same rationale.

In regard to claim 68, claim 68 reflects the system-comprising a processor, a computer monitor, a user interface coupled to the processor for performing the method steps as claimed in claim 1, and are rejected along the same rationale.

In regard to claim 53 and 61, Drenttel teaches storing the one or more user-defined boundaries as a boundary layout template that is available for recall by the user (e.g., col. 6 lines 23-67).

In regard to claim 54 and 62, Drenttel teaches adjusting the length associated with a first user-defined boundary in the one or more user- defined boundaries, and adjusting the two or more window areas based on the adjusted length associated with the first user-defined boundary (e.g., col. 6 lines 56-67 through col. 8 lines 1-4).

In regard to claim 55 and 63, Drenttel teaches storing the association between the first application window and the first window area within the at least one computer (e.g., Figs. 9a-9c and col. 7 lines 57-67 through col. 8 lines 1-5).

In regard to claim 56 and 64, Drenttel teaches resizing the first application window to cover an entire area of the first window area within the at least one computer (e.g., Figs. 9a-9c and col. 7 lines 57-67 through col. 8 lines 1-5 and col. 5 lines 14-16).

In regard to claim 57 and 65, Drenttel further teaches resizing the first application window to cover a first portion of the first window area (e.g., Figs. 9a-9c and col. 7 lines 35-67). Drenttel and Santoro do not teach the area defined by the first portion is less than an entire area of the first window area within the at least one computer. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made to have implemented this limitation because Drenttel suggests to the skilled artisan that the grid template can be rearranged, reconfigured and reorganized as desired by the end user to suit his or her needs and/or tastes (e.g., col. 6 lines 56-67 through col. 7 lines 1-3). One would have been motivated to make such an implementation is to increase the user understanding of, and relationship to, a computer interface through a computer screen (e.g., Drenttel col. 2 lines 23-26).

In regard to claim 58 and 66, Drenttel the one or more user-defined boundaries are associated with a pre-defined boundary layout template selected by the user (e.g., col. 6 lines 23-67 through col. 7 lines 1-3).

9. Claims 59 and 67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Drenttel in view of Santoro further in view of Butler et al. (Patent No. 6018340; hereinafter Butler).

In regard to claim 59 and 67, Drenttel and Santoro teach the limitations of claims 52 and 60 for the same reasons as set forth above. Drenttel and Santoro do not disclose the window area is extended across a first computer display and a second computer display. Butler discloses a window area associating with an application window (e.g., window area C as shown in Fig. 4) wherein the window area is extended across two computer displays such that a first portion of the first window area is within a first computer display and a second portion of the first window area is within a second computer display (e.g., window area C in Fig. 4). Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to have modified the grid template as taught by Drenttel and Santoro to be able to use for a multiple displays as taught by Butler to achieve the ability display multiple application windows in a multiple displays environment. One would have been motivated to make such a combination is to be able to view multiple application windows in multiple displays in a larger scale to increase the user efficiency.

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's remarks filed on 12/19/08 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

It is noted that any citation to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the references should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art. In re Heck, 699 F.2d 1331, 1332-33,216 USPQ 1038, 1039 (Fed. Cir. 1983) (quoting In re Lemelson, 397 F.2d 1006,1009, 158 USPQ 275,277 (CCPA 1968)).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TuyetLien (Lien) T. Tran whose telephone number is 571-270-1033. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Friday: 7:30 - 5:00 (every other Friday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on 571-272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/TuyetLien T Tran/
Examiner, Art Unit 2179

/Weilun Lo/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2179